



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

FALSE ARALIA CARE

LIGHT

False aralia (*Plerandra elegantissima*), also sold as *Dizygotheca*, *Schefflera* or *Aralia elegantissima*, prefers bright, filtered light. Protect its narrow, finely toothed leaves from harsh direct sun. Keep it in a stable, bright location and allow space for its upright growth.

WATERING

Keep the root ball lightly moist, watering thoroughly as the surface starts to dry. Allow excess water to drain and empty the saucer. Do not leave roots soggy or let the whole pot dry hard. Check less often in winter when growth and water use slow.

SOIL

Use a fertile, airy houseplant mix that retains some moisture while draining freely. Choose a container with drainage holes. Repot in spring when crowded, using a pot only slightly larger. Preserve the root ball and keep the stem base at the same depth.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Provide steady household warmth, around 65-80°F, with protection from cold drafts and sudden changes. Higher humidity benefits the fine foliage. Use a humidifier in dry winter rooms, keeping the plant away from hot radiators and air-conditioning vents. Allow gentle air circulation.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly during active spring and summer growth with a balanced houseplant fertilizer at the labeled dilution. Reduce or stop feeding when growth slows. Remove dead growth with clean tools. The leaflets naturally become broader on older plants; this change alone does not indicate poor care.

PESTS & HANDLING

Check for scale, thrips and mealybugs, especially on leaf undersides and stems. Isolate infested plants before treatment. Sudden leaf drop calls for checking moisture, drafts and recent moves. Wear gloves when pruning or repotting, as contact may cause skin irritation.